

14 April 1980

NOTE FOR: DD/PersPP&M

1. The attached correspondence re the Excalibur Award was referred to us for action. Penultimate paragraph suggests, "You may want to post the enclosed announcement so your workers will see it." What is enclosed is more like a poster than an announcement and would do little more than confuse those who took the time to read it. Furthermore, we have already sent in a nomination for this award and have been advised that it still stands (has not been ruled out for consideration).

2. Suggest we file this information and in our next memorandum to all Directorates asking for Public Service Award nominees, include information about Excalibur. Our next memo re Public Service Awards should go out in about a month.

STATINTL

A handwritten signature in dark ink is positioned above a solid black rectangular redaction box.

STATINTL

Approved For Release 2002/01/08 : CIA-RDP84-00313R000100150010-4

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MICHAEL D. BARNES
8TH DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
POLICY AND TRADE

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

SUBCOMMITTEES:
IMMIGRATION, REFUGEES AND
INTERNATIONAL LAW
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW AND
GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

March 27, 1980

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
NORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-5341

DISTRICT OFFICE:
8534 SECOND AVENUE
SECOND FLOOR
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20910
(301) 589-4595

Executive Registry

80-929

DD/A Registry

80-0966

80-2067

The Honorable Stansfield Turner
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

I am pleased to tell you that Senior Master Sergeant Udo C. J. Fischer of the Alaskan Air Command was the recipient of the second Excalibur Award in the U.S. Capitol on March 24, 1980.

My selection committee of eight leaders in various fields (government, education, business, law, science, psychology) chose Sgt. Fischer of Elmendorf Air Force Base for risking his own life to save lives and to teach all members of the Air Force in Alaska, their families, and the general public how to survive the harsh Arctic climate, avalanches, and the precipitous, icy terrain.

Sgt. Fischer is the team leader of the Alaskan Rescue Group, a civilian volunteer mountain rescue organization that has saved countless persons from serious injury, disaster, and death. He is known throughout our northern-most state for establishing this significant life-saving service to the community, reflecting his great concern for the health and well-being of his fellow man.

I am also happy to tell you that -- to date -- almost every federal department and agency has submitted some nominations for the Excalibur Award, which recognizes excellence and outstanding achievement in public service.

I am grateful for this all-too-rare opportunity to focus on the positive aspects of good government. Therefore, I intend to award the Excalibur citation several more times

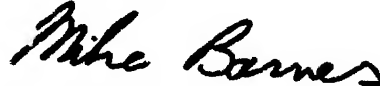
The Honorable Stansfield Turner
Page 2
March 27, 1980

throughout 1980. We will reconsider all of our past worthy nominations. But I look forward to your future nominations of persons who are making timely, noteworthy, meaningful contributions that ultimately benefit society at large.

You may want to post the enclosed announcement so that your workers will see it. This office is also now preparing an information brochure and poster on the Excalibur Award for your future use.

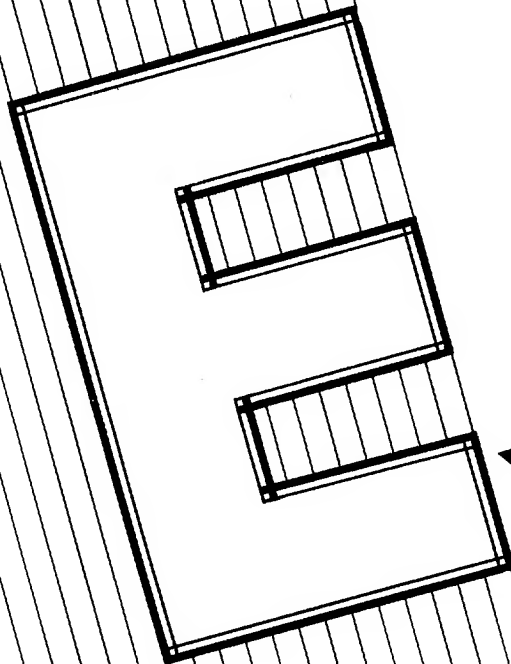
The enclosed speech -- delivered at the American Society for Public Administration -- describes some of the recent, exceptional Excalibur nominations. I think you will agree that our nation has many "unsung heroes." I hope you will continue to join me in recognizing the efforts of our superior public servants.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike Barnes".

Michael D. Barnes

MDB/lk
Enclosure



xcalibur award

excellence in public service

**congressional award for
Federal civilian and military personnel**

**recognition for significant
contributions at local, national or
international levels**

**citation presented
at U.S. Capitol ceremony**

**let the nation know
about the many outstanding
men and women in government**

**nominate your co-worker, your
team, your department head**

**details:
Congressman Mike Barnes
1607 Longworth
Washington, DC 20515
202/225-5341**

**or
Incentive Award Officer
your department or agency**

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8TH DISTRICT, MARYLAND

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March 27, 1980

Mr. Harry E. Fitzwater
Acting Director of Personnel
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

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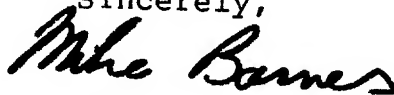
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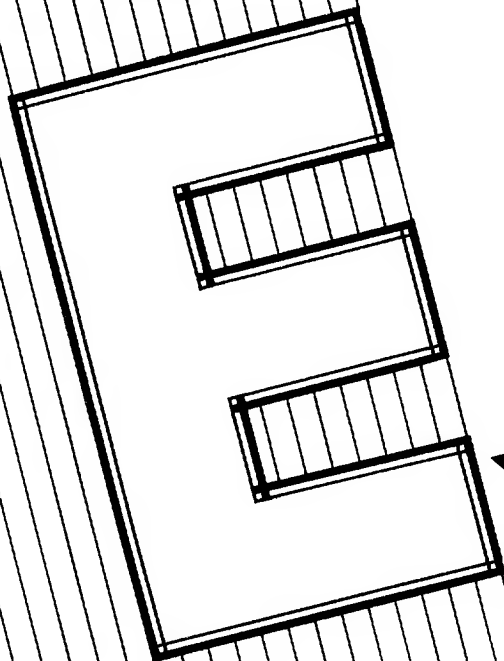
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SPECIAL PHONE FOR THE
HEARING IMPAIRED
TTY-224-2793
TTY-224-3997



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COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT
OF COLUMBIA

SUBCOMMITTEE:
JUDICIARY, MANPOWER
AND EDUCATION

EXCALIBUR AWARD
SPEECH DELIVERED BY CONG. MICHAEL BARNES

MARCH 24, 1980

TO THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

I am pleased to be with you--the Young Professionals Forum of the American Society for Public Administration--National Capital Area Chapter.

I know that mutual interests have brought us together. We share the same desire to focus on the positive aspects of good government, to draw attention to the outstanding accomplishments of men and women who serve their nation honorably--whether in federal civilian or military service, to counter the negative image of the government bureaucracy, and to attract talented and imaginative people like yourselves into meaningful public service.

Through ASPA, you among the 16,000 members nationally are able to build professionalism, fellowship, and pride in being public servants. Your theme this year--excellence in public service--as well as your overall dedication to improving the quality of life in America--coincide exactly with my reason for establishing the Excalibur Award.

I believe it is important to recognize significant accomplishments of federal employees and just as necessary for our greater body of citizens to know about them. As a Member of Congress representing a district in the capital area in which many federal employees live, I feel a special obligation to make this effort. I am firmly convinced that the overwhelming majority of government employees are dedicated, hard-working, honest, and often even inspired.

But the perception that many Americans have is radically different. And I want to work with you to change that perception.

Earlier today, in the U. S. Capitol, I was privileged to honor Air Force Senior Master Sergeant Udo C. J. Fischer whose contribution to the mission of the Alaskan Air Command has taught countless persons how to survive in the harsh, icy, mountainous regions of the Arctic. House Speaker Tip O'Neill and other distinguished guests joined me in citing this individual for risking his own life to rescue others and for his perseverance--not just for withstanding and indeed overcoming the hostile climate and terrain of the Arctic--but also for his continued, genuine concern for the health and well-being of his fellow man.

Before I detail some of Sgt. Fischer's noteworthy achievements and introduce him to you, I want to assure you that the task of the Selection Committee--an independent body of eight leaders in various fields (science, technology, education, business, law, psychology, government) and appointed by me to designate the recipients of Excalibur has not been an easy one. And I am frankly delighted.

In the past several months since initiating this award, I have come to feel almost as if I have been chosen to uncover the wealth of this nation as measured in unsung heroes. My staff and the committee reviewed some 150 nominations from U. S. Departments and Agencies throughout the world. And I want to take just a minute to tell you about some of the other worthy people and their achievements I have learned about through this awards program.

Last November, the first Excalibur Award was presented to Frank Nola of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Alabama for developing a simple and inexpensive device that attaches to electric motors used for home appliances and in industry in order to cut power consumption.

NASA holds the patent for this timely invention that promises to save our nation substantial amounts of both oil and money in the years ahead.

To date, my Selection Committee has designated only Messrs. Nola and Fischer to receive the Excalibur Award.

But by no means any less deserving of recognition and acclaim by their fellow workers and their country is this sampling of candidates proudly nominated by a host of federal agencies.

The Air Force--I might begin--delivered 20 nominations, causing much deliberation, reflection and comment among both staff and the Selection Committee.

In addition to Sgt. Fischer and his achievements, we came to know:

Lt. Col. Paul J. Sheffield, a medical doctor in Texas whose research efforts have earned world-wide recognition for the Air Force Hyperbaric Medicine Program. I've since learned that hyperbaric medicine provides the patient with 100 per cent oxygen under greater than normal pressure in a compressed air chamber to aid in the treatment of diver's and aviator's bend, carbon monoxide poisoning, air embolism, gas gangrene, radiation burns on cancer victims, and other chronic, non-healing wounds. There is discussion now that the work of Dr. Sheffield--who is recognized as the Air Force authority on tissue oxygen measurement--is one of the major medical breakthroughs of our time.

Maj. Thomas J. Cross of Colorado Springs, chief of the Skylab Decay Team, was nominated for his role in the disintegration of Skylab in one of the least populated areas of the earth with no reported damage to property or casualty.

Consider Maj. Gen. Ralph S. Saunders of the Military Airlift Command who until his retirement last September was commander of the Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service that saved more than 6,000 lives in the past five years under his leadership. His ARRS Forces were deployed to Cambodia, South Vietnam, Lebanon, and most recently to Nicaragua to support evacuation and rescue operations. These same forces--under Gen. Saunders' command--completed the difficult and unpleasant assignment of recovering the remains of more than 900 victims in Jonestown, Guyana.

Lt. Col. Robert A. Reinman, Commander of the 1836 Electronics Installation Squadron, Wiesbaden, Germany, used his talents to resolve tariff disputes between the U. S. Military and the Deutsche Bundespost to a savings for us of millions of dollars each year. This doctor of philosophy and electrical engineer also combats drug abuse in units throughout Europe as an additional activity.

Gladys Neal, an Air Force personnel clerk in Denver, Colorado, has devoted her off-duty hours to helping solve the problems of the elderly. She designed therapy to involve the institutionalized aged in the business of everyday life that is now being used as a model program and that could have impact throughout the nation as our population grows older. Her fellow workers praise her "personal integrity, honesty, high moral character, and courage" and point to her 30 years of study, which is now gaining a doctorate in geriatric psychology and sociology. Ms. Neal is a GS-5.

Not to be outdone, the Navy nominated six outstanding persons including Master Chief Radioman Joe Glenn Knott of Hawaii for "devising a classified system that makes ship-to-shore voice circuits less susceptible to jamming by enemy forces." He is considered the technical expert in communications in the Eastern Pacific area.

I am, for obvious reasons, pleased to be able to tell you about Mrs. Leda Sweet, a supply technician at the White Oak Naval Laboratory in my Congressional District. Deaf since the age of six, Ms. Sweet teaches sign language to her fellow workers as well as in the community. She has helped attain summer jobs for many hearing-impaired students.

At the U. S. Naval Observatory in Washington, James Christy, also of Maryland, discovered two years ago the only known moon of the planet Pluto, thereby rocking the scientific world and causing speculation that a tenth planet may exist even farther from the sun.

In Japan, a team of five military and civilian personnel known as the Joint Labor Affairs Committee recently reached an agreement with the Government of Japan, which will now bear some \$65 million of U. S. Forces' annual labor costs. This amount is expected to climb in future years to relieve our government of the costs of maintaining U. S. Forces in Japan. This was truly a precedent-setting achievement of international significance.

Also in this second Excalibur round, NASA nominated engineer, violin maker and astronomer Robert T. Jones of the Ames Research Center, California, for his aeronautic discovery--the "oblique-wing aircraft"--promises greater fuel economy, noise abatement, and exhaust emission control.

In addition, the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Iowa City told us about a social worker who developed a "dialysis on vacation" program for persons with kidney disease.

The National Science Foundation was especially enthusiastic about Dr. Shirley McBay and her work to involve minorities in the science fields.

The Treasury Department let us know about John Ronilo who provided emergency dispersing of funds and supplies for victims of last spring's flooding in Mississippi. The Small Business Administration in Portland, Oregon, made sure that we knew how J. Don Chapman saved firms from drought and inspired an entire city to turn itself around and revitalize.

The Federal Trade Commission alerted us to anti-trust inquiries and investigations by its economist Douglas Dobson. HEW lauds Barbara Henderson's leadership of the Child Support Enforcement Program in four western states at a savings of \$7.5 million.

And the Defense Intelligence Agency said the present efforts of James Wink should allow for the frank exchange of "substantive intelligence between Peking and Washington." DIA Director Eugene Tighe states that Mr. Wink "single-handedly conceived, designed, and implemented a program to allow the United States and the People's Republic of China to exchange information through both their military attaches posted abroad for the mutual benefit of both nations."

One member of our Selection Committee is a research associate of the Washington-based Project on Technology, Work, and Character. He recently wrote that the best workers are imaginative, open to new ideas, believers in teamwork, and willing to take risks. They look for challenges. Qualities of the heart, such as compassion, generosity and the capacity to love deeply, are strengthened.

I believe that Sgt. Udo Fischer has all of those qualities.

Since his assignment to Alaska in 1975, Sgt. Fischer drew upon his own background as a survival expert and pararescueman to create a new Arctic survival training branch affecting the lives of all Air Force personnel and their dependents when they arrive at Elmendorf AFB. His commander, Lt. Gen. Winfield Scott, Jr., says that Fischer prevents untold misery and financial loss by supplying the critical knowledge of proper day-to-day Arctic living...to protect our military forces and their families and to ensure the survival of aircrews under any condition."

In the civilian community, Fischer is a team leader and chairman of the Alaska Rescue Group, a volunteer mountain rescue operation. Risking his life, he has personally led mountain rescue teams many times through the worst winter weather--saving 26 lives and recovering the bodies of 22 fatalities.

As part of accident prevention, he instructs avalanche and other survival methods to groups in Alaska as the National Transportation and Safety Board, Department of Fish and Game, Civil Air Patrol, Boy Scouts, state troopers, bush pilots, and industrial groups. He is praised by those who know him for his "exceptional resourcefulness, leadership, and courage" and he has evidently established an important life-saving service to the community.

Local ASPA President Brad Patterson has said that "we should speak up--telling whoever will listen that there are tens of thousands--who deserve the public's support and gratitude because they serve a good society greatly..."

I join Mr. Patterson and ASPA in doing whatever I can to add my voice to yours in fulfilling this joint goal.

I am grateful to all of those who are participating in the ongoing Excalibur Awards program, and I am hopeful that in the future we will find a way to recognize all the deserving, hard-working people in the federal government who contribute to an abundant, sounder, and saner way of life for all.

In these days when public servants are under attack on all sides, this effort is particularly important. And, I must say, the efforts of the American Society for Public Administration in promoting the concept of excellence in public service could not be more timely. I salute you, and I look forward to continuing to work with you.

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